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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

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To:

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Date f mailing (day/month/year) 17 February 2000 (17.02.00)

in its capacity as elected Office

International application No.
PCT/US99/10821
International filing date (day/month/year)
18 May 1999 (18.05.99)

Priority date (day/month/year) 18 May 1998 (18.05.98)

7024381Pur92

Applicant's or agent's file reference

Applicant

PAK, William, L. et al

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The International Bureau f WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland **Authorized officer**

C. Cupello

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PURDUE RE-SEARCH FOUNDATION [US/US]; Office of Technology Transfer, 1063 Hovde Hall, West Lafayette, IN 47907 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PAK, William, L. [US/US]; 1025 Windwood Lane, West Lafayette, IN 47906 (US). LI, Chenjian [CN/US]; 221 Carrollwood Drive, Tarrytown, NY 10591 (US). GENG, Chaoxian [CN/US]; 228 Amold Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906 (US).

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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP. KR. KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

(54) Title: CALCIUM CHANNEL REGULATORS

(57) Abstract

Purified InaF proteins that function in ulating calcium ion entry into cells are provided. Nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins are also provided. The invention also provides recombinant vectors including the nucleotide sequence encoding InaF, host cells that include the recombinant vectors described herein and methods of expressing InaF proteins by culturing such host cells.



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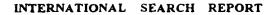
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US99/10821

	A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
, ,	: C07K 14/435; C12N 1/00, 5/10, 15/12, 15/63; C					
	US CL: 435/69.1, 320.1, 252.3, 325, 410; 530/350; 536/23.5 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
						
	ocumentation searched (classification system follower	d by classification symbols)				
U.S. : 435/69.1, 320.1, 252.3, 325, 410; 530/350; 536/23.5						
0.5.	435707.1, 520.1, 252.5, 525, 410, 5507550, 55072					
Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the	extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched			
Electronic o	data base consulted during the international search (n	ame of data base and, where practicable	e, search terms used)			
Picase Se	e Extra Sheet.					
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	propriate of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
Category	Charles of document, was indicated, whose a	ppropriate, or the relevant passages	Toolvani to than 110.			
A, P	Database EMBL-est58-GENBANK-e	st111, Accession Number	1-43			
	AI403010, HARVEY et al. 'BDGP/HE					
·	08 February 1999, see entire document.					
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X, P						
	calcium entry. Society for Neuroscience Abstracts. 1998, Vol. 24, page 2030, abstract 812.1, entire abstract.					
	page 2030, abstract 612.1, chine abstr	act.				
Α	MONTELL, C. New light on TI	RP and TRPL. Molecular	1-43			
	Pharmacology. 1997, Vol. 52, pages 755-763, entire document.					
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A, P	MONTELL, C. TRP trapped in fly sig	_	1-43			
	in Neurobiology. June 1998, Vol. 8,	No. 3, pages 389-397, entire				
	document.					
Furth	ner documents are listed in the continuation of Box C	See patent family annex.				
i .	ecial categories of cited documents: cument defining the general state of the art which is not considered	"T" later document published after the inte date and not in conflict with the appl	ication but cited to understand			
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	cument published prior to the international filing date but later than priority date ciaimed	*&* document member of the same patent	family			
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	arch report			
04 AUGU	UST 1999	09 SEP 1999				
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International application No. PCT/US99/10821

pir, genbank, embl, Swiss-prot, A-geneseq, N-geneseq; Dialog files 5, 155, 35 (Biosis, Medline, Diss. Abs.); APS, CAS-STN files registry, caplus search terms: Calcium, channel, eye#, drosophila, melanogaster, mqqqrqqllqrqh/sqsp, inaf, ina##, 10c##, 10d##,							
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FEE CALCULATION SHEET Annex to the Request

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nternational applic	ation No.	

Annex to the Request	inclinational application (10).
Applicant's or agent's file reference 7024381Pur92	Date stamp of the receiving Office
Applicant PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION, etal	
CALCULATION OF PRESCRIBED FEES 1. TRANSMITTAL FEE 2. SEARCH FEE International search to be carried out by (If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent in relation application, indicate the name of the Authority which is chosen to carry out the international searching Authorities are competent in relation application, indicate the name of the Authority which is chosen to carry out the international searching application.	700 S
3. INTERNATIONAL FEE Basic Fee The international application contains 81 sheets. first 30 sheets	b1 b2
remaining sheets additional amount Add amounts entered at b1 and b2 and enter total at B Designation Fees The international application contains 79 designations.	965 B
number of designation fees amount of designation fee payable (maximum 10) Add amounts entered at B and D and enter total at I	2X. 1050 D f the d, the d, the d, D
4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCUMENT (if applicable)	30 P
Add amounts entered at T, S, I and P, and enter total in the TOTAL bo	
MODE OF PAYMENT	
authorization to charge deposit account (see below) bank draft cash postal money order revenue stamps	coupons other (specify):
deposit account.	
23-3030 /8/5/99 Deposit Account No. Date (day month/year)	Signature Jasop J. SCHWARTZ, #43,910

PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLIC TRANSMITTAL LETTER	, May 1999
REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION OF	DOCKET OR REFERENCE NUMBER
PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION, et al	7024381Pur92
CALCIUM CHANNEL REGULATORS	CT/PTO 2 0 NOV 2000
Certification under 37 CFR 1.10 (if app	0 7 7 0 0 0 0 7
EM577549282US	18 May 1999
"Express Mail" mailing number	Date of Deposit
I hereby certify that this application is being deposited with the United States B Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressee. Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Leslie Curry	0-6
(Typed or printed name of person mailing application)	(Signature of person mailing application)
To the United States Receiving Office (RO/US):	\mathcal{O}
Accompanying this transmittal letter is the above-identified Internation Request form (PCT/RO/101). Please process the application according to ation Treaty.	
The following requests are made of the RO/US:	
1. PREPARATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF CERTIFIED COPY prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified condocuments identified in Box VI of the Request form (37 CFR 1.451	ppy of the United States origin priority).
To cover the cost of copy preparation and certification (37 CFR 1.1 XX) a (check) (money order) in the amount of 3 30.00 includ	9(a)(í) and (b)(1)). ed is attached to this transmittal letter.
the RO/US is hereby authorized to charge the following deposit a	
2. XX CHOICE OF INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY Search be performed by the following International Searching Auth	—It is requested that the International nority:
XX United States Patent and Trademark Office (ISA/US)	
European Patent Office (ISA/EP)	
The appropriate Search fee for the above-named Authority is (PCT/RO/101 Annex).	indicated on the Fee Calculation Sheet
3. XX SUPPLEMENTAL SEARCH FEES (ONLY WHEN ISA/US (SEARCH.)—Please charge any Supplemental Search fees that International Searching Authority (ISA/US) to deposit account no.	may be required by the United States
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4. XX DISCLOSURE INFORMATION—In order to assist in screening cation for purposes of determining whether a license for foreign and for other purposes, the following information is supplied:	g the accompanying International appli- transmittal should and could be granted
A. There is no prior filed application relating to this invention	
B. There is a prior application, serial number 60/087, 368 which contains subject matter that is the 60/098, 072	filed on 18 May 1998 (18.05.98) Filed on 27 August 1998 (27.08.9
1. substantially identical to that of the accompanying	
2XXX less than that of the accompanying Internatio	nai application. The additional subject
matter of the International application appears on p 3. more than that of the accompanying International	$ages(s)$ and $line(s)$ $\frac{throughout application}{tapplication}$.
C. Disclosure information cannot be covered by the language involvement of several prior applications or for other which the disclosure information is explained is attached	her reasons. A separate sheet on
5. REQUEST FOR FOREIGN TRANSMITTAL LICENSE—Ac 184 and 37 CFR 5.11, a license to transmit the accompanying Into or international authorities is hereby requested.	cording to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. ternational application to foreign agencies
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PTO-1382 :PEV 3-84)	U.S. Department of Commerce

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Affice use only	
101.1000 mg : 330 mm/	
International Application No.	
International Filing Date	
Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	

	Applicant's or agent's file reference file desired) (12 characters maximum) 7024381Pur92
Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION	
CALCIUM CHANNEL REGULATORS	
Box No. II APPLICANT	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a led designation. The address must include postal code and name of country address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of of residence is indicated below.)	gal entity, full official y. The country of the of residence if no State This person is also inventor.
PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION	Telephone No.
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1063 Hovde Hall West Lafayette, Indiana 47907 US	Facsimile No.
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This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated all designated the United States X the United States	
Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHE	ER) INVENTOR(S)
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a leg designation. The address must include postal code and name of country address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence is indicated below.)	gal entity, full official y. The country of the f residence if no State applicant only
PAK, William L.	XX applicant and inventor
1025 Windwood Lane	applicant and inventor
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 US	inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)
State (that is, country) of nationality: US	State (that is, country) of residence:
	US
This person is applicant all designated for the purposes of:	States except the United States the States indicated in the States indicated in the Supplemental Box
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a	a continuation sheet.
Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE: O	OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on b of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:	I V I ABOUT COMMINICATION TO DECIMALITY C
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a le designation. The address must include postal code	gal entity, full official Telephone No. and name of country.)
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WOODARD, EMHARDT, NAUGHTON, MORIARTY & M	ICNETT Facsimile No.
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Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no a space above is used instead to indicate a special address to white	agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the ch correspondence should be sent.

Continuation of Box No. III FUR SEK. PPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENT(S)					
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Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity. full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) LI, Chenjian 221 Carrollwood Drive Tarrytown, New York 10591	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)				
State (that is, country) of nationality: CN State (that is, country) of US	f residence:				
This person is applicant all designated last designated States except the	e United States America only the States indicated in the Supplemental Box				
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.) GENG, Chaoxian 228 Arnold Drive West Lafayette, Indiana 47906 US	This person is: applicant only X applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)				
State (that is, country) of nationality: \$\mathcal{C} \mathcal{N}\$ US State (that is, country) o US	f residence:				
This person is applicant for the purposes of: all designated all designated States except the United States of America X of America	United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box				
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name: for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	This person is: applicant only applicant and inventor inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)				
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State (that is, country) of nationality: State (that is, country) of	residence:				
	United States the States indicated in the Supplemental Box				
Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation shee	it.				

		Sheet	No :	} · · · ·	Agent'ef; 7024381Pur92
Box I	Vo.V	DESIGNATION OF JAT			
The	follow	ing designations are hereby made under Rule	4.9(a) (mark t	he applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):
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Œ			nya, LS	Lesot ng Stai	ho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, te of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT
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Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filling of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

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図 図 LC Saint Lucia LK Sri Lanka

LR Liberia

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KR Republic of Korea KZ Kazakhstan....

Check-boxes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of a national patent) which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

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.....

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Agent s Ref: 024381Pur92

Supplemental Box If the Supplemental Box is not used, this sheet should not be include the request.

1. If, in any of the Boxes, the space is insufficient to furnish all the information: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No...." [indicate the number of the Box] and furnish the information in the same manner as required according to the captions of the Box in which the space was insufficient, in particular:

- (i) **if more than two persons are involved as applicants and/or inventors** and no "continuation sheet" is available: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. III" and indicate for each additional person the same type of information as required in Box No. III. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below;
- (ii) if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the indication "the States indicated in the Supplemental Box" is checked: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Boxes No. II and No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the applicant(s) involved and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is applicant:
- (iii) if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the inventor or the inventor/applicant is not inventor for the purposes of all designated States or for the purposes of the United States of America: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Box No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the inventor(s) and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is inventor:
- (iv) if, in addition to the agent(s) indicated in Box No. IV, there are **further agents**: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. IV" and indicate for each further agent the same type of information as required in Box No. IV;
- (v) if, in Box No. V, the name of any State (or OAPI) is accompanied by the indication "patent of addition," or "certificate of addition," or if, in Box No. V, the name of the United States of America is accompanied by an indication "continuation" or "continuation-in-part": in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. V" and the name of each State involved (or OAPI), and after the name of each such State (or OAPI), the number of the parent title or parent application and the date of grant of the parent title or filing of the parent application:
- (vi) if. in Box No. VI, there are more than three earlier applications whose priority is claimed: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. VI" and indicate for each additional earlier application the same type of information as required in Box No. VI;
- (vii) if, in Box No. VI, the earlier application is an ARIPO application: in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. VI", specify the number of the item corresponding to that earlier application and indicate at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for which that earlier application was filed.
- 2. If, with regard to the **precautionary designation statement** contained in Box No. V, the applicant wishes to exclude any State(s) from the scope of that statement: in such case, write "Designation(s) excluded from precautionary designation statement" and indicate the name or two-letter code of each State so excluded.
- 3. If the applicant claims, in respect of any designated Office, the benefits of provisions of the national law concerning **non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty**: in such case, write "Statement concerning non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty" and furnish that statement below.

Continuation to Box No. IV Agent

WOODARD, Harold R.; EMHARDT, C. David; NAUGHTON, Joseph A., Jr.; MORIARTY, John V.; McNETT, John C.; HENRY, Thomas Q.; DURLACHER, James M.; REEVES, Charles R.; WAGNER, Vincent O.; ZLATOS, Steve; BEREVESKOS, Spiro; BAHRET, William F.; BROWNING, Clifford W.; FRISK, R. Randall; LUEDERS, Daniel J.; GANDY, Kenneth A.; THOMAS, Timothy N.; SISSELMAN, Kerry P.; JONES, Kurt N.; ALLIE, John H.; BANTA, Holiday W.; COLE, Troy J.; PAYNTER, L. Scott; LOWES, J. Andrew; MEYER, Charles J.; HARRIS, Darrin Wesley; SCHANTZ, Matthew R.; COY, Gregory B.; HIDAY, Lisa A.; DANILUCK, John V.; BROWN, Christopher A.; SCHWARTZ, Jason J.; USHER, A. J.; IV; COLLIER, Douglas A.; MYERS, James B. Jr.; STEVENS, Scott J., and ROWE, James L., all of Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton, Moriarty & McNett, Bank One Center/Tower, Suite 3700, 111 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 United States of America

Filing date	ier application		will inter applicat	.1011 15.
of earlier application (day/month/year)	of lier application	national application: country	regional application:* regional Office	international application: receiving Office
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(18.05.98) 18 May 1998	60/087,368	tte		
item (2)	00/007,300	US		
(27.08.98)				
27 August 1998	60/098,072	US	ļ	
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purposes of the present int	ternational application is th	he receiving Office) identifi	ied above as item(s):	(1) and (2)
Where the earlier application is Convention for the Protection of It			Supplemental Box at least of led (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See	one country party to the Paris Supplemental Box.
Box No. VII INTERNATIO	ONAL SEARCHING AUT			
Choice of International Search (if two or more International Sea competent to carry out the interna- the Authority chosen; the two-lette	arching Authorities are sear ational search, indicate er code may be used): Dat	rch has been carried out by o te (day/month/year) May 1998 (18.05.	Number 98) 60/087,368	
ISA / US		August 1998 (27.	08.98) 60/098,	072 US
Box No. VIII CHECK LIST				
This international application contact the following number of sheet	e· i .	al application is accompar	nied by the item(s) mark	ed below:
request :	1. fee calcul			
description (excluding sequence listing part)	46 1	signed power of attorney general power of attorney;	reference number, if an	ıy:
claims :	_	t explaining lack of signatu		•
abstract :		locument(s) identified in B		
drawings :	- - - ·	on of international applicati		
sequence listing part				or other biological material
of description :	7 1 -	le and/or amino acid seque		
Total number of sheets:	81 . 9. 🔀 other (spe	Transmitta		
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract:		inguage of filing of the ernational application:	English	
201110121	OF APPLICANT OR AG			
Next to each signature, indicate the na	me of the person signing and the	capacity in which the person si	gns (if such capacity is dot of	byibus from reading the request).
PURDUE RESEARCH F	OUNDATION	Agent:		
(PAK, William L.)			Just J. or	1 —
(LI, Chenjian)		(Jason .	J. SCHWARTZ)	•
(GENG, Chaoxian)				
. Description of the		eceiving Office use only -		2. Drawings:
Date of actual receipt of the international application:				
 Corrected date of actual rece timely received papers or dra the purported international a 	awings completing			received:
4. Date of timely receipt of the corrections under PCT Artic				not received:
International Searching Auth (if two or more are competer			al of search copy delaye th fee is paid.	:d
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FEB 29 2000

Woodard, Emnardt Magnifer Monarty & Magnifer **PCT**

INFORMATION CONCERNING ELECTED OFFICES NOTIFIED OF THEIR ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.3)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

SCHWARTZ, Jason, J.
Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton,
Moriarty & McNett
Bank One Center/Tower
Suite 3700
111 Monument Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46204
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE

Date f mailing (day/month/year)

17 February 2000 (17.02.00)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

7024381Pur92

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

International application No.

PCT/US99/10821

International filing date (day/month/year)
18 May 1999 (18.05.99)

Priority date (day/month/year)
18 May 1998 (18.05.98)

Applicant

PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION et al

1. The applicant is hereby informed that the International Bureau has, according to Article 31(7), notified each of the following Offices of its election:

AP:GH,GM,KE,LS,MW,SD,SL,SZ,UG,ZW

EP:AT,BE,CH,CY,DE,DK,ES,FI,FR,GB,GR,IE,IT,LU,MC,NL,PT,SE

National: AU, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, DE, IL, JP, KP, KR, MN, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SE, SK, US

2. The following Offices have waived the requirement for the notification of their election; the notification will be sent to them by the International Bureau only upon their request:

EA: AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM

OA:BF,BJ,CF,CG,CI,CM,GA,GN,GW,ML,MR,NE,SN,TD,TG

National: AE, AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BB, BY, CH, CU, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU,

ID,IN,IS,KE,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LS,LT,LU,LV,MD,MG,MK,MW,MX,PT,SD,SG,SI,SL,TJ,

TM,TR,TT,UA,UG,UZ,VN,YU,ZA,ZW

3. The applicant is reminded that he must enter the "national phase" before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date before each of the Offices listed above. This must be done by paying the national fee(s) and furnishing, if prescribed, a translation of the international application (Article 39(1)(a)), as well as, where applicable, by furnishing a translation of any annexes of the international preliminary examination report (Article 36(3)(b) and Rule 74.1).

Some offices have fixed time limits expiring later than the above-mentioned time limit. For detailed information about the applicable time limits and the acts to be performed upon entry into the national phase before a particular Office, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The entry into the European regional phase is postponed until 31 months from the priority date for all States designated for the purposes of obtaining a European patent.

Th Int rnati nal Bureau f WIPO 34, ch min des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switz rland Authorized officer:

C. Cupello

Cupelli

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

Form PCT/IB/332 (September 1997)

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To: Woodard, Emhardt, Naugh NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT JASON J. SCHWARTZ WOODARD, EMHARDT, NAUGHTON, MORIARTY & MCNETT, BANK ONE CENTER/TOWER, STE. 3700 111 MONUMENT CIRCLE OF DEMAND BY COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY INDIANAPOLIS IN 46204 (PCT Rule 593(e) and 61.1(b), first sentence and Administrative Instructions, Section 601(a)) Date of mailing (day/month/year) 1**AN** 2000 Applicant's or agent's file reference IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION 7024381PUR92 International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) PCT/US99/10821 18 MAY 99 18 MAY 98 Applicant PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority considers the following date as the date of receipt of the demand for international preliminary examination of the international application: 2. That date of receipt is: the actual date of receipt of the demand by this Authority (Rule 61.1(b)). the actual date of receipt of the demand on behalf of this Authority (Rule 59.3(e)). the date on which this Authority has, in response to the invitation to correct defects in the demand (Form PCT/IPEA/404), received the required corrections. ATTENTION: That date of receipt is AFTER the expiration of 19 months from the priority date. Consequently, the election(s) made in the demand does (do) not have the effect of postponing the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)). Therefore, the acts for entry into the national phase must be performed within 20 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 22). For details, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II. (If applicable) This notification confirms the information given by telephone, facsimile transmission or in person on:

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Assistant Commissioner for Patents **Box PCT**

Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No.

Attn: IPEA/US

4. Only where paragraph 3 applies, a copy of this notification has been sent to the International Bureau.

Authorized officer Catherine Williams

PCT Geerath was reported to (79a) 25 207 (76a) 305-3230 (FAX)

Telephone No.

Form PCT/IPEA/402 (July 1998)

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PATENT COOPERATION TEATY

RECEIVED 09/7008602312000

From the

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

ί, .

podard, Emhardt, Naughton, Morierty & McNett

To: JASON J. SCHWARTZ WOODARD, EMHARDT, NAUGHTON, MORIARTY & MCNETT BANK ONE CENTER/TOWER, SUITE 3700 111 MONUMENT CIRCLE INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY **EXAMINATION REPORT**

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing (day/month/year)

27 JUL 2000

Applicant's or agent's file reference

7024381Pur92

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority Date (day/month/year)

PCT/US99/10821

18 MAY 1999

18 MAY 1998

Applicant

PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paving national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1))(see also the remin 'er sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

GABRIELE ELISABETH BUGAISKY

Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/IPEA/416 (July 1992) *

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 7024381Pur92	FOR FURTHER ACTION		cation of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No.	International filing date (day/s		Priority date (day/month/year)	
PCT/US99/10821	18 MAY 1999	,	18 MAY 1998	
International Patent Classification (IPC) Please See Supplemental Sheet.	<u> </u>	PC		
Applicant PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION	٧			
Examining Authority and is 2. This REPORT consists of a	transmitted to the applicant total of sheets.	according to		
been amended and are the (see-Rule 70.16 and Sect	e basis for this report and/or sh ion 607 of the Administrative	eets containing	ription, claims and/or drawings which have grectifications made before this Authority. order the PCT).	
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.				
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:				
I X Basis of the repor	t			
II Priority				
III Non-establishmen	t of report with regard to no	velty, inventi	ve step or industrial applicability	
IV Lack of unity of i				
V X Reasoned statement		ard to novelty, ent	inventive step or industrial applicability;	
VI Certain documents of	eited			
VII X Certain defects in th	e international application			
	on the international applicati	on		
Date of submission of the demand	Date	of completion	of this report	
15 DECEMBER 1999	27	JUNE 2000		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/U		rized officer		
Commissioner of Patents and Tradema Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231		ABRIELE ELI	SABETH BUGAISKY	
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telepi	hone No. (70	03) 308-0196	
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Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998) *

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

international application No.

PCT/US99/10821

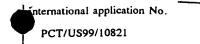
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Novelty (N) Claims Claims Inventive Step (IS) Claims Claims Claims Claims NONE Industrial Applicability (IA) Claims Claims Claims Claims NONE Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 NONE Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 NONE Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 NONE NONE Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 NONE NONE NONE NEW CITATIONS NONE					tatement
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Claims NONE citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly InaF gene, constructs containing the gene, a recombinant method of making InaF, and purified InaF protein. regulate ion flux into cells are important in regulating signal transduction. NEW CITATIONS					·
citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) Claims 1-43 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly inaF gene, constructs containing the gene, a recombinant method of making InaF, and purified InaF protein. regulate ion flux into cells are important in regulating signal transduction. NEW CITATIONS NONE	Y		1-43	Claims	Industrial Applicability (IA)
Claims 1-43 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly InaF gene, constructs containing the gene, a recombinant method of making InaF, and purified InaF protein. regulate ion flux into cells are important in regulating signal transduction. NEW CITATIONS	N		NONE	Claims	
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/10821 VII. Certain defects in the international application The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: The description is objected to as containing the following defect(s) under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(iii) in the form or contents thereof: line I of the abstract recites "ulating". Presumably, this should be "modulating".



VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

The description is objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) as lacking clarity under PCT Article 5 because it fails to adequately enable practice of the claimed invention because: but a single gene is isolated which encodes an InaF protein that is involved in Ca²⁺ regulation and affects the levels of the TRP protein. The InaF gene is mapped to 10 C2-E3 of the D. melanogaster polytene chromosomes. Constructs containing the InaF gene are generated. The putative protein is 241 amino acids with an estimated weight of 26 kd and is recombinantly produced as a fusion partner to glutathione S-transferase. Although the description states that the invention is not limited to the specific sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and 2, and implies that other organisms possess a homologous protein with similar function, no evidence is presented that such proteins exist nor is it taught which specific positions could likely be mutated and still provide a protein of similar function. Similarly there is no evidence that a cognate gene exists in other organisms, no suggestion as to where such genes may likely be found. It is deemed that based upon a single working example of a gene and its encoded protein, that the description is not enabled for any homologue of the gene and/or protein, that insufficient identifying characteristics have been presented in order to one of skill in the art to determine whether a given gene/protein fulfills the same function of InaF. One has been given an invitation to experiment to try to identify and isolate other proteins/genes which may fall within the scope of the claims.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-9, 11-12, 14-16, 18, 20-21, 23, 25-26, 28-29, 30-34, 36-37, and 39-42 are objected to as lacking clarity under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) because practice of the claimed invention is not enabled as required under PCT Rule 5.1(a) for the reasons set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph.

Applicants have responded to these objections by stating the description is replete with information to support the assertion that the description provides sufficient guidance to allow one skilled in the art to practice the invention without undue experimentation. It is stated that homologues of the described genes and proteins may be found by searching through various databases using computer programs known in the art or that portions of the nucleotide sequences may be used as probes to find similar sequences in various genomic and/or cDNA libraries. It is stated that other nucleotide sequences are taught in the application as the degeneracy of the genetic code allows one to alter the third base of a codon and achieve expression of the same amino acid. It is asserted that routine procedures exist in the art for determining whether a particular (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US99/10821

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

CLASSIFICATION:

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below:

IPC(7): C07K 14/435; C12N 1/00, 5/10, 15/12, 15/63; C12P 21/00 21/02 and US Cl.: 435/69.1, 320.1, 252.3, 325, 410;

530/350; 536/23.5

VIII. CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS ON THE APPLICATION (Continued):

polypeptide is involved in calcium ion regulation.

First, with respect to degenerate codon usage, there is no disagreement. It is regretted that it was not made sufficiently clear in the written opinion that the description is indeed enabled for alternate codon usage. However, but a gene encoding a single protein is described; the hybridizations to genomic DNA appear to be at high stringency and it is unclear whether the inaF gene is a member of a novel gene family so that multiple genes exist in D. melanogaster. There is no basis to conclude

that any nucleic acid molecule which encodes a protein of at least 30% identity to the disclosed inaF protein is indeed a genetic homologue of the disclosed inaF protein; other than the role of inaF in calcium regulation, the primary deduced sequence, and the chromosomal location of the gene, no other physical properties of the protein or gene are disclosed. An incomplete description of a single species does not a priori enable an entire genus. That a potential means exists for one to possibly obtain homologs of inaF does not in of itself show that the description is sufficiently enabling to allow one to unambiguously obtain these homologs.

5

CALCIUM CHANNEL REGULATORS

This invention was made with government support under grant number EY00033 awarded by the National Eye Institute. The Government has certain rights in the invention.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/087,368, filed on May 18, 1998, and U.S.

Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/098,072, filed on August 27, 1998, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

- In many types of excitable and nonexcitable cells, Ca²⁺ is both a critical molecule for homeostasis and an intracellular signaling molecule in many physiological processes such as muscle contraction, glandular secretion, transcriptional activation, and neurotransmitter release
- 20 [Berridge, M.J. (1993) Nature 361: 315-325; Berridge, M.J. (1995) Biochem. J., 312:1-11; Clapham, D.E. (1995) Cell 80:259-268; Clapham, D.E. (1996) Neuron 16:1069-1072].

Mobilization of Ca^{2+} is also involved in the immune response, such as autoimmune diseases and generation of an immune

- response after organ transplantation. Furthermore, a growing body of evidence suggests that neuronal degeneration diseases such as Alzheimer's is caused by excessive Ca^{2^*} mobilization. These physiological processes are controlled by regulation of the cytosolic free Ca^{2^+} concentration ($[Ca^{2^+}]_i$). In resting
- 30 cells, the cytosolic $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ is maintained at about 10-100 nM,

AMENDED SHEET

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION et al

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

SCHWARTZ, Jason, J.
Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton,
Moriarty & McNett
Bank One Center/Tower
Suite_3700
111 Monument Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 13 August 1999 (13.08.99)	ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
Applicant's or agent's file reference 7024381Pur92	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/US99/10821	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 May 1999 (18.05.99)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 18 May 1998 (18.05.98)
Applicant	

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt (except where the letters "NR" appear in the right-hand column) by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the earlier application(s) indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, or by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- 2. This updates and replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents.
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Priority date	Priority application No.	Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office	Date of receipt of priority document
18 May 1998 (18.05.98)	60/087,368	US	12 July 1999 (12.07.99)
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woodard, Emhardt, Naughton, PCT Monarty & McNett

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE **COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL** APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

SCHWARTZ, Jason, J. Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton, Moriarty & McNett Bank One Center/Tower Suite 3700 111 Monument Circle Indianapolis, IN 46204 **ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

25 November 1999 (25.11.99)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

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PCT/US99/10821

International filing date (day/month/year)

18 May 1999 (18.05.99)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Priority date (day/month/year) 18 May 1998 (18.05.98)

Applicant

PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION et al.

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice: AU, CN, EP, IL, JP, KP, KR, US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

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applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 25 November 1999 (25.11.99) under No. WO 99/60022

REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

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Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

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For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

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(57) Abstract

Purified InaF proteins that function in ulating calcium ion entry into cells are provided. Nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins are also provided. The invention also provides recombinant vectors including the nucleotide sequence encoding InaF, host cells that include the recombinant vectors described herein and methods of expressing InaF proteins by culturing such host cells.

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CALCIUM CHANNEL REGULATORS

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/087,368, filed on May 18, 1998, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/098,072, filed on August 27, 1998, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In many types of excitable and nonexcitable cells, Ca²⁺ is both a critical molecule for homeostasis and an intracellular signaling molecule in many physiological 15 processes such as muscle contraction, glandular secretion, transcriptional activation, and neurotransmitter release [Berridge, M.J. (1993) Nature 361: 315-325; Berridge, M.J. (1995) Biochem. J., 312:1-11; Clapham, D.E. (1995) Cell 80:259-268; Clapham, D.E. 20 (1996) Neuron 16:1069-1072]. Mobilization of Ca^{2+} is also involved in the immune response, such as autoimmune diseases and generation of an immune response after organ transplantation. Furthermore, a growing body of evidence suggests that neuronal 25 degeneration diseases such as Alzheimer's is caused by excessive Ca2+ mobilization. These physiological processes are controlled by regulation of the cytosolic free Ca²⁺ concentration ([Ca²⁺]_i). In resting cells, the cytosolic [Ca²⁺]_i is maintained at about 10-100 nM, 30

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but during stimulation the cytosolic $[Ca^{2+}]_{\dot{1}}$ can rise rapidly to micromolar ranges.

The widely used signal transduction pathway, the receptor-based, G protein-coupled, PLC-IP3 cascade,

also uses Ca²⁺ as a key signaling molecule. In excitable cells such as muscle cells, Purkinje neurons and Drosophila photoreceptor cells, as well as in nonexcitable cells such as mast cells and lymphocytes, extracellular stimuli activate receptors on the cell membrane, which in turn activate receptor-coupled G proteins. The activated G protein then activates phospholipase C to hydrolyze PIP2 to IP3 and DAG. While DAG activates phosphokinases, IP3 binds to IP3 receptors, which are ligand-gated Ca²⁺ channels on the surface of intracellular Ca²⁺ stores, and induces Ca²⁺ release from these stores. The Ca²⁺ release from intracellular stores triggers, through unknown molecules and mechanisms, Ca²⁺ influx from the extracellular space into the cell via Ca²⁺ selective channels on the plasma membrane (reviewed by Berridge, 1995; Clapham, 1996, both cited above).

Putney, in Cell Calcium 11:611-624 (1990), proposed that activation of the ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$ channel on the plasma membrane is dependent on ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$ release from the intracellular stores, and named these specific types of ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$ channels on the plasma membrane "capacitative ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$ channels". In recent years, "capacitative ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$

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channels" has been renamed "store-operated Ca²⁺ channels (SOC)" because, unlike the capacitors in electronic circuitry, the Ca²⁺ channels on the cell membranes actually pass ions through them. Cells throughout the animal kingdom, as well as some bacterial, fungal and plant cells, have one or more types of calcium channels.

Although physiological and pharmacological studies identified the SOCs as a unique and important class of Ca²⁺ channels, no actual genes or proteins had been 10 identified until the Drosophila trp gene was cloned and subsequently studied [Montell, C. and Rubin, G.M. (1989) Neuron 2:1313-1323; Wong, F.E.L. et al. (1989) Neuron 3:81-94; Hardie, R.C. and Minke, B. (1992) Neuron 8:643-651; Vaca, L. et al. (1994) Am.J. Physiol. 15 267:C1510-C1505]. Several lines of research have subsequently confirmed that the Drosophila Trp protein is a member of the SOCs. Since identification of the trp gene in Drosophila, several human and mouse 20 homologs have been cloned [Wes, P.D. et al. (1995) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92:9652-9656; Zhu, X. et al. (1995) FEBS Letter 373:193-198; Zitt, C. et al.(1996) Neuron 16:1189-1196]. Expression of the human Trp in COS cells increases store-operated calcium entry 25 (SOCE), and expression of portions of mouse trp homologs in antisense orientation in murine L cells suppressed SOCE [Zhu, X. et al. (1995) above].

Further studies have determined that another protein, InaD, binds to the *Drosophila* Trp protein. InaD is a soluble protein with PDZ domains which are

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known to be important for protein/protein interaction and anchoring ion channels [Kim, E. et al. (1995) Nature 378:85-88; Kim, E. et al. (1996) Neuron 17:103-113; Kormau, H.C. et al. (1995) Science 269:1737-1740].

InaD has been shown by co-immunoprecipitation and geloverlay assays to bind physically to the trp protein (Shieh, B. and Zhu, M. (1996), Neuron 16:991-998; Huber, A. et al. (1996) EMBO 15(24);7036-7045]. It now appears that InaD forms the scaffold for a

multimolecular signaling complex that includes the TRP protein. [Chevesich, J. et al. (1997) Neuron 18:95-105; Tsunoda, S. et al. (1997) Nature 388:243-249].

InaC has been identified as an eye-specific protein kinase C (Smith, D.P. et al. (1991) Science 254:1478-1484). InaC binds to InaD, suggesting that InaD could be one of the substrates of InaC-mediated phophorylation (Huber et al. (1996) above).

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Although some information regarding regulation of calcium ion influx into a cell is known in Drosophila and higher eukaryotes, such as mice and humans, identification of other proteins involved in Ca²⁺ mobilization would increase the understanding of how calcium channels are regulated. Identification of proteins involved in calcium channel regulation in lower eukaryotes can lead to identification of similar proteins in higher eukaryotes, such as humans as discussed above for the trp protein. Moreover, identification of substances that modulate the activity of calcium channels, thus making it possible to treat diseases that are thought to involve calcium ion

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mobilization, including Alzheimer's disease and autoimmune diseases. There is therefore a need for proteins and nucleic acid sequences involved in ${\rm Ca}^{2+}$ mobilization. The present invention addresses this need.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A novel protein, InaF, that functions in regulation of calcium ion entry into a cell, has been discovered. Accordingly, in one aspect of the invention, purified InaF proteins are provided.

In yet another aspect of the invention, isolated nucleic acid molecules that encode InaF proteins are provided. The nucleic acid molecules may be incorporated into a vector to form a recombinant nucleic acid molecule. Moreover, such recombinant nucleic acid molecules may be introduced into a host cell.

In other aspects of the invention, methods of expressing InaF proteins are provided. The methods include transforming a host cell with a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein that functions in regulating calcium ion entry into a cell as provided herein, and culturing the transformed host cells under conditions effective in achieving expression of InaF proteins. The proteins may then be purified by conventional techniques.

It is an object of the invention to provide purified functional InaF proteins.

It is a further object of the invention to provide nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins.

It is a further object of the invention to provide recombinant vectors that include nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins.

It is yet another object of the invention to 30 provide host cells containing introduced nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins.

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It is a further object of the invention to provide nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins and purified functional InaF proteins that may be modified to control calcium ion entry into cells.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the descriptions herein.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

- FIG. 1 depicts the cross scheme of single P local hopping mutagenesis for P69 and trol. Asterisks indicate chromosomes into which the P element could have transposed.
- FIG. 2 depicts electroretinogram (ERG) recordings from inaF mutants as discussed in Example 2. The top trace is an ERG of strong allele, $inaF^{P111x}$, and the bottom trace is an ERG of weak allele, $inaF^{P112x}$. Stimulus duration was 4 seconds.
- FIG. 3 depicts intracellularly recorded

 15 photoreceptor potentials as discussed in Example 2.

 The voltage responses to 8 second light stimuli were measured in wild-type flies, trp^{P301}, and inaF^{P111x}.
- FIG. 4 depicts intracellularly recorded receptor potentials showing photoreceptor response latency as discussed in Example 2. Flies were dark-adapted for 2 minutes.
- FIGS. 5A-B are views of photoreceptors obtained by transmission electron microscopy as discussed in Example 3. FIG. 5A, left panel, depicts photoreceptors of wild-type flies; FIG. 5A, right panel, depicts photoreceptors of 19 day old inaF; bw; st reared light/dark; FIG. 5B depicts an enlarged view of the region indicated by the arrow in FIG. 5A.

- FIG. 6 depicts the cross-scheme for remobilization of the P insertion in $inaF^{P105p}$, as discussed in Example 4.
- FIG. 7 depicts a cytogenetic map of the inaF mutation as discussed in Example 5. Df(1)HA85(inaF⁻), Df(1)m259-4(inaF⁻) and Df(1)(inaF⁻) are deficiency stocks as discussed in Example 5.
- 10 FIG. 8 depicts a genomic Southern analysis as discussed in Example 6. Genomic DNA was purified and digested by EcoRI (lanes 1-4), BamHI (lanes 5-8), and HindIII (lanes 9-12), and loaded on a 0.7% agarose gel in the following order: wild-type (lanes 1, 5 and 9); mutator 3B (lanes 2, 6 and 10); mutator 3B1-2 (jumpstarter) (lanes 3, 7 and 11); and inaF^{P105p} (lanes 4, 8 and 12). The gel blot was probed with ³²P-dCTP labeled pCaSpeR3.
- FIG. 9 depicts a genomic Southern analysis as discussed in Example 6. Genomic DNA was purified and digested by EcoRI (lanes 1 and 2), BamHI (lanes 3 and 4), and HindII (lanes 5 and 6), and loaded on a 0.7% agarose gel in the following order: mutator 3B (lanes 1, 3 and 5), and inaF^{P105P} (lanes 2, 4 and 6).
- FIG. 10 depicts a polytene chromosome after an in situ hybridization procedure performed as described in Example 7. The signal (arrowhead) detected on the polytene chromosome was localized in the 10 C2-E3 region of the X chromosome, which was consistent with

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the results obtained by using pCaSpeR3 and fragment 4 of A23 as probes.

#1 insert as discussed in Example 7. The lanes were loaded, from left to right, with polyA+ RNA from wild-type head, wild-type body, inaF (inaF^{P105p}) head and eya head. RP49, a ribosomal protein universally expressed in all tissues.

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FIG. 12 depicts restriction maps of inaF cDNA and of the corresonding genomic region in the A23 clone and three inaF mutants. The unfilled inverted triangle in the $inaF^{P105p}$ map identifies the P element insertion.

The empty spaces to the right and left of the P insertion site in the $inaF^{P106x}$ and $inaF^{P111x}$ maps, respectively, represent the deletions caused by imprecise excision of the P element. In the cDNA map, the broken dotted line indicates the extent of the intron, and the open rectangle identifies the open reading frame. A composite genomic map at the top shows EcoRI sites (R) and the sizes of EcoRI fragments.

FIG. 13 depicts a Western blot analysis of null

(inaF^{P106x}, trp^{P343}) and near-null (inaF^{P105p}, trp^{P301}) inaF

and trp mutants, and wild-type and revertant controls.

The seven lanes were loaded with total protein prepared

from (lanes 1-7): "wild-type heads, wild-type bodies,

revertant heads, trp^{P301} heads, trp^{P343} heads, inaF^{P105P}

heads, and inaF^{P106x} heads.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the invention, reference will now be made to preferred embodiments and specific language will be used to describe the same. It will nevertheless be understood that no limitation of the scope of the invention is thereby intended, such alterations and further modifications of the invention, and such further applications of the principles of the invention as illustrated herein, being contemplated as would normally occur to one skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

A novel calcium channel regulator protein, InaF, has been identified in the fruit fly, Drosophila melanogaster. Accordingly, the present invention provides purified InaF protein. The invention further provides isolated nucleic acid molecules that include nucleotide sequences encoding functional InaF proteins. Recombinant nucleic acid molecules are also provided that include the novel inaF nucleotide sequence. The nucleic acid molecules may be incorporated in a host cell. In another aspect of the invention, methods of expressing functional InaF protein are also provided.

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In a first aspect of the invention, novel, purified InaF proteins are provided that function in regulating cellular influx of calcium ions. The InaF polypeptides are substantially pure (i.e., InaF proteins are essentially free, e.g., at least about 95% free, from other proteins with which they naturally occur). In one preferred embodiment, the amino acid

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sequence of an InaF protein, originally found in Drosophila melanogaster, is set forth in SEQ ID:1.

Although the invention is described with reference to Drosophila melanogaster amino acid sequences, it is understood that the invention is not limited to the 5 specific amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID:1. Skilled artisans will recognize that, through the process of mutation and/or evolution, polypeptides of different lengths and having differing constituents, 10 e.g., with amino acid insertions, substitutions, deletions, and the like, may arise that are related to, or sufficiently similar to, a sequence set forth herein by virtue of amino acid sequence homology and advantageous functionality as described herein. term "InaF protein" is used to refer generally to a 15 protein having the features described herein and a preferred example includes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. Also included within this definition, and in the scope of the invention, are variants of the polypeptide which 20 function in regulating calcium ion movement into a cell, as described herein.

It is well known that animals of a wide variety of species commonly express and utilize homologous proteins, which include the insertions, substitutions and/or deletions discussed above, and yet which effectively provide similar function. For example, an amino acid sequence isolated from another species may differ to a certain degree from the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOS:1 and 2, and yet have similar functionality with respect to catalytic and regulatory

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function. Amino acid sequences comprising such variations are included within the scope of the present invention and are considered substantially or sufficiently similar to a reference amino acid sequence. Although not being limited by theory, it is believed that the identity between amino acid sequences that is necessary to maintain proper functionality is related to maintenance of the tertiary structure of the polypeptide such that specific interactive sequences will be properly located and will have the desired activity. Although it is not intended that the present invention be limited by any theory by which it achieves its advantageous result, it is contemplated that a polypeptide including these interactive sequences in proper spatial context will have good activity, even where alterations exist in other portions thereof.

In this regard, an InaF protein variant is expected to be functionally similar to that set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, for example, if it includes amino acids which are conserved among a variety of species or if it includes non-conserved amino acids which exist at a given location in another species that expresses a functional InaF protein.

Another manner in which similarity may exist between two amino acid sequences is where a given amino acid of one group (such as a non-polar amino acid, an uncharged polar amino acid, a charged polar acidic amino acid or a charged polar basic amino acid) is substituted with another amino acid from the same amino acid group. For example, it is known that the uncharged polar amino acid serine may commonly be

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substituted with the uncharged polar amino acid threonine in a polypeptide without substantially altering the functionality of the polypeptide. If one is unsure whether a given substitution will affect the functionality of the enzyme, then this may be determined without undue experimentation using synthetic techniques and screening assays known in the art.

The invention therefore also encompasses amino acid sequences similar to the amino acid sequences set forth herein that have at least about 30% identity thereto and function in regulating cellular influx of calcium ions. Preferably, inventive amino acid sequences have at least about 50% identity to these sequences, further preferably at least about 70% identity, more preferably at least about 80% identity and most preferably at least about 90% identity.

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Percent identity may be determined, for example, by comparing sequence information using the advanced 20 BLAST computer program, version 2.0.8, available from the National Institutes of Health. The BLAST program is based on the alignment method of Karlin and Altschul, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 87:2264-68 (1990) and as discussed in Altschul, et al., J. Mol. Biol. 25 215:403-10 (1990); Karlin and Altschul, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90:5873-7 (1993); and Altschul et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25:3389-3402. Briefly, the BLAST program defines identity as the number of identical aligned symbols (i.e., nucleotides or amino 30 acids), divided by the total number of symbols in the shorter of the two sequences. The program may be used

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to determine percent identity over the entire length of the proteins being compared. Preferred default parameters for the BLAST program, blastp, include: (1) description of 500; (2) Expect value of 10; (3) Karlin-Altschul parameter $\lambda = 0.270$; (4) Karlin-Altschul parameter K = 0.0470; (5) gap penalties: Existence 11, Extension 1; (6) H value = $4.94e^{-324}$; (6) scores for matched and mismatched amino acids found in the BLOSUM62 matrix as described in Henikoff, S. and Henikoff, J.G. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:10915-10919; Pearson, W.R. (1995) Prot. Sci. 4:1145-1160; and Henikoff, S. and Henikoff, J.G. (1993) Proteins 17:49-61. The program also uses an SEG filter to mask-off segments of the query sequence as determined by the SEG program of Wootton and Federhen

In another aspect of the invention, isolated nucleic acid molecules, originally isolated from Drosophila melanogaster, are provided that encode a functional InaF protein that functions in regulating calcium ion entry into cells. The nucleotide sequences are set forth in SEQ ID NOS:1 and 2. It is preferred that the nucleotide sequence includes nucleotides spanning nucleotides 301 to 1036 in SEQ ID NO:1 and nucleotides spanning nucleotides 528 to 1250 in SEQ ID NO:2. It is not intended that the present invention be limited to these exemplary nucleotide sequences, but include sequences having substantial similarity thereto and sequences which encode variant forms of functional InaF protein as discussed above and as further discussed below.

(1993) Computers and Chemistry 17:149-163.

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The term "isolated nucleic acid," as used herein, is intended to refer to nucleic acid which is not in its native environment. For example, the nucleic acid is separated from other contaminants that naturally accompany it, such as proteins, lipids and other nucleic acid sequences. The term includes nucleic acid which has been removed or purified from its naturally-occurring environment or clone library, and further includes recombinant or cloned nucleic acid isolates and chemically synthesized nucleic acid.

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The term "nucleotide sequence," as used herein, is intended to refer to a natural or synthetic linear and sequential array of nucleotides and/or nucleosides, including deoxyribonucleic acid and ribonucleic acid, and derivatives thereof. The terms "encoding" and "coding" refer to the process by which a nucleotide sequence, through the mechanisms of transcription and translation, provides the information to a cell from which a series of amino acids can be assembled into a specific amino acid sequence to produce a functional polypeptide, such as, for example, an active enzyme or other protein that has a specific function. process of encoding a specific amino acid sequence may involve DNA sequences having one or more base changes (i.e., insertions, deletions, substitutions) that do not cause a change in the encoded amino acid, or which involve base changes which may alter one or more amino acids, but do not eliminate the functional properties of the polypeptide encoded by the DNA sequence.

It is therefore understood that the invention encompasses more than the specific exemplary nucleotide

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sequence of inaF. For example, nucleic acid sequences encoding variant amino acid sequences, as discussed above, are within the scope of the invention. Modifications to a sequence, such as deletions, insertions, or substitutions in the sequence, which produce "silent" changes that do not substantially affect the functional properties of the resulting polypeptide molecule are expressly contemplated by the present invention. For example, it is understood that alterations in a nucleotide sequence which reflect the degeneracy of the genetic code, or which result in the production of a chemically equivalent amino acid at a given site, are contemplated. Thus, a codon for the amino acid alanine, a hydrophobic amino acid, may be substituted by a codon encoding another less hydrophobic residue, such as glycine, or a more hydrophobic residue, such as valine, leucine, or isoleucine. Similarly, changes which result in substitution of one negatively charged residue for another, such as aspartic acid for glutamic acid, or one positively charged residue for another, such as lysine for arginine, can also be expected to produce a biologically equivalent product.

Nucleotide changes which result in alteration of
the N-terminal and C-terminal portions of the encoded
polypeptide molecule would also not generally be
expected to alter the activity of the polypeptide. In
some cases, it may in fact be desirable to make
mutations in the sequence in order to study the effect
of alteration on the biological activity of the

polypeptide. Each of the proposed modifications is well within the routine skill in the art.

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In one preferred embodiment, the nucleotide sequence has substantial similarity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or SEQ ID:2, preferably the sequence spanning nucleotides 314 to 1036 in SEQ ID:1 and preferably the sequence spanning nucleotides 528 to 1250 in SEQ ID:2, and variants described herein. term "substantial similarity" is used herein with respect to a nucleotide sequence to designate that the nucleotide sequence has a sequence sufficiently similar to a reference nucleotide sequence that it will hybridize therewith under moderately stringent conditions. This method of determining similarity is well known in the art to which the invention pertains. Briefly, moderately stringent conditions are defined in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, 2nd ed. Vol. 1, pp. 101-104, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press (1989) as including the use of a prewashing solution of 5X SSC (a sodium chloride/sodium citrate solution), 0.5% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 1.0 mM ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) (pH 8.0) and hybridization and washing conditions of 55°C, 5x A further requirement of the inventive polynucleotide is that it must encode a polypeptide having similar functionality to the InaF protein described herein, i.e., functioning to regulate influx of calcium ions into cells.

In yet another embodiment, nucleotide sequences

having selected percent identities to specified regions
of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 are

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provided. In one preferred form, nucleotide sequences are provided that have at least about 60% identity, more preferably at least about 80% identity, and most preferably at least about 90% identity, to a nucleotide sequence of substantial length within the nucleotide sequence from nucleotides 314 to 1036 set forth in SEQ ID:1. For example, such length may be 100, 200 or 400 nucleotides, or may be the entire sequence from nucleotides 314 to 1036 of SEQ ID:1. A further requirement is that the nucleotide sequence from 10 nucleotide 314 to 1036 set forth in SEQ ID:1 encodes a protein that functions in regulating calcium entry into cells. The percent identity may be determined, for example, by comparing sequence information using the 15 advanced BLAST computer program, version 2.0.8., as described above with reference to amino acid identity. Preferred default parameters for blastn include: (1) Karlin-Altschul parameter $\lambda = 1.37$ (gapped and ungapped); (2) Karlin-Altschul parameter K = 0.71120 (gapped and ungapped); $(3)H = 4.94e^{-324}$ (gapped and zero for ungapped); (4) gap penalties: Existence 5, Extension 2; and (5) scores for matched and mismatched nucleotides found in the blastn matrix as described in Altschul, S.F. et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25:3389-3402 and Zhang, J. (1997) Genome Res. 7:649-

A suitable DNA sequence may be obtained by cloning techniques using cDNA libraries. For example, Drosophila melanogaster head cDNA libraries are available commercially or may be constructed using standard methods known in the art. Suitable nucleotide

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sequences may be isolated from DNA libraries obtained from a wide variety of species by means of nucleic acid hybridization or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) procedures, using as probes or primers nucleotide sequences selected in accordance with the invention, such as those set forth in SEQ ID:1, nucleotide sequences having substantial similarity thereto, or portions thereof.

Alternately, a suitable sequence may be made by

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10 techniques which are well known in the art. example, nucleic acid sequences encoding a functional InaF protein may be constructed by recombinant DNA technology, for example, by cutting or splicing nucleic acids using restriction enzymes and DNA ligase. 15 Furthermore, nucleic acid sequences may be constructed using chemical synthesis, such as solid-phase phosphoramidate technology. PCR may be used to increase the quantity of nucleic acid produced. Moreover, if the particular nucleic acid sequence is of 20 a length which makes chemical synthesis of the entire length impractical, the sequence may be broken up into smaller segments which may be synthesized and ligated together to form the entire desired sequence by methods

In another aspect of the invention, InaF polypeptides functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into a cell and having the amino acid sequences encoded by nucleotide sequences having substantial similarity to the nucleotide sequences described above are also provided.

known in the art.

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In a further aspect of the invention, recombinant nucleic acid molecules, or recombinant vectors, are provided. In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecules include a nucleotide sequence encoding a functional InaF protein. The nucleotide sequence has substantial similarity, as defined above, to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or SEQ ID:2, preferably the sequence spanning nucleotides 314 to 1036 in SEQ ID:1 or the identical sequence in SEQ ID:2 spanning nucleotides 528 to 1250. The protein produced has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1, or variants thereof as described above.

Recombinant vectors may be constructed by incorporating the desired nucleotide sequence within a vector according to methods well known to the skilled artisan and as described for example, in Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Springs Laboratory, Cold Springs Harbor, New York (1982). A wide variety of vectors are known that have use in the invention. For example, various plasmid and phage vectors are known that are ideally suited for use in the invention. For example, pGEM, pBluesript, EMBL and λ Gtll may be used in the invention. embodiment, the desired recombinant vector may be constructed by ligating DNA linker sequences to the 5' and 3' ends of the desired nucleotide insert, cleaving the insert with a restriction enzyme that specifically recognizes sequences present in the linker sequences and the desired vector, cleaving the vector with the same restriction enzyme, mixing the cleaved vector with

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the cleaved insert and using DNA ligase to incorporate the insert into the vector as known in the art.

The vectors may include other nucleotide sequences, such as those encoding selectable markers, including those for antibiotic resistance or color selection. The vectors also preferably include a promoter nucleotide sequence. The desired nucleic acid insert is preferably operably linked to the promoter. A nucleic acid is "operably linked" to a another 10 . nucleic acid sequence, such as a promoter sequence, when it is placed in a specific functional relationship with the other nucleic acid sequence. The functional relationship between a promoter and a desired nucleic acid insert typically involves the nucleic acid and the promoter sequences being contiguous such that 15 transcription of the nucleic acid sequence will be facilitated. Two nucleic acid sequences are further said to be operably linked if the nature of the linkage between the two sequences does not (1) result in the 20 introduction of a frame-shift-mutation; (2) interfere with the ability of the promoter region sequence to direct the transcription of the desired nucleotide sequence, or (3) interfere with the ability of the desired nucleotide sequence to be transcribed by the promoter sequence region. Typically, the promoter 25 element is generally upstream (i.e., at the 5' end) of the nucleic acid insert coding sequence.

A wide variety of promoters are known in the art, including cell-specific promoters, inducible promoters, and constitutive promoters. The promoters may further be selected such that they require activation by

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activating elements known in the art, so that production of the protein encoded by the nucleic acid sequence insert may be regulated as desired.

The vectors may further include other regulatory 5 elements, such as enhancer sequences, which cooperate with the promoter to achieve transcription of the nucleic acid insert coding sequence. By "enhancer" is meant nucleotide sequence elements which can stimulate promoter activity in a cell, such as a bacterial or eukaryotic host cell.

Moreover, the vectors may include another nucleotide sequence insert that encodes a protein that may aid in purification of the desired protein encoded by the desired nucleotide sequence. The additional nucleotide sequence is positioned in the vector such that a fusion, or chimeric, protein is obtained. For example, an InaF protein may be produced having at its C-terminal end linker amino acids, as known in the art, joined to the other protein. The additional nucleotide sequence may include, for example, the nucleotide sequence encoding glutathione-S-transferase (GST). After purification procedures known to the skilled artisan, the additional amino acid sequence is cleaved with an appropriate enzyme. For example, if the additional amino acid sequence is that of GST, then thrombin is used to separate the InaF protein from GST. The InaF protein may then be isolated from the other proteins, or fragments thereof, by methods known in the art.

The inventive recombinant vectors may be used to transform a host cell. Such methods include, for

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example, those described in Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Springs Laboratory, Cold Springs Harbor, New York (1982). Once the desired nucleic acid has been introduced into the host cell, the host cell may produce the inventive InaF protein, or variants thereof, as described above. Accordingly, in yet another aspect of the invention, a host cell is provided that includes the inventive recombinant vectors described above.

A wide variety of host cells may be used in the invention, including prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells. Bacterial host cells such as *Escherichia coli*, HB 101 and XL-1 blue may be advantageously used in the present invention. Typical eukaryotic host cells include SF9, S2, NIH 3T3 and NIH 293.

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In yet another aspect of the invention, methods of producing functional InaF proteins as described above are provided. In one embodiment, the method includes providing a nucleotide sequence described above, or variants thereof, that encodes a functional InaF protein that regulates calcium ion entry into cells, and introducing the nucleotide sequence into a host cell, as described above. The desired nucleotide sequence may be advantageously incorporated into a vector to form a recombinant vector. The recombinant vector may then be introduced into a host cell according to known procedures in the art. Such host cells are then cultured under conditions, well known to the skilled artisan, effective to achieve expression of the InaF polypeptide. The InaF polypeptide may then be purified using conventional techniques.

Reference will now be made to specific examples illustrating the invention described above. It is to be understood that the examples are provided to illustrate preferred embodiments and that no limitation to the scope of the invention is intended thereby.

EXAMPLE 1

Generation of inaF Mutant by P-Element Mediated Mutagenesis

This example shows the method by which inaF mutants were obtained through P-element mediated mutagenesis.

Drosophila Stocks

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The first inaF mutant was generated through Pelement mediated mutagenesis, as described below, on a
white background. The actual eye color of the mutant
was light orange because the P element insertion
causing the inaF mutation contains a mini-white⁺ gene.
To eliminate eye color, the original inaF mutant was
placed in a bw; st background, so that inaF; bw; st
flies would have no eye-color pigment.

In accordance with the Pak laboratory's practice of giving a P1XX number to 1st chromosome mutations and using a lower-case letter after the number to indicate the method of inducing the mutations, we designated the original inaF as inaF^{P105P}, in which the lower-case p in the superscript stands for P-insertion. In the course of a remobilization experiment to be described below, 25 new inaF alleles were generated due to imprecise excision. For these additional alleles we used a lower-case x in the superscript to indicate that

they were induced by imprecise excision and designated the 25 new alleles in as $inaF^{Pl06X}$ through $inaF^{Pl30X}$.

The mutator, 3B, was chosen for local hopping mutagenesis, because it has an insertion in 3B1-2, which is very close to 3A3-5 where the P69 gene is localized. This fly has a mutation in an eye-pigment gene white, and thus originally has a white eye color background. The actual eye color of 3B is orange, because the fly also carries a P element, pCaspeR3,

which has the mini-white gene as a marker. The shades of eye color, from dark red to light lemon, are dependent on where the insertions are. The eye color is darker when the insertion is in the vicinity of a strong enhancer, and the eye color is lighter when the insertion is close to a weaker enhancer. This location-sensitive eye color change is a very good indication of whether the P element has been mobilized to a new place.

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The mutator, y w/P[lacW] was chosen for random targeting mutagenesis. This fly carries a white mutation, and thus has a white eye color background. Its actual orange eye color is from the P[lacW], an engineered P element with the plasmid rescue feature as well as the enhancer trap capability as described in Bier et al., Genes and Development, 3:1273-1287 (1989).

The jumpstarter, P3629, carries a functional transposase gene which lacks the end inverted repeats (delta2-3). The delta2-3 is inserted on the 3rd chromosome, which also carries a visible dominant marker Sb. This visible marker is useful in indicating the presence or absence of the delta2-3.

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The trol mutation is lethal. In the trol stock used in this mutagenesis, females are balanced over FM7, and males carry, by translocation, a 2D-3C segment of the X chromosome on the Y chromosome, which rescues the trol lethality.

In the C(1)RM, $y \le w/w/Y$ fly stock, females have a special type of genome that contains two linked X chromosomes. These two linked chromosomes will segregate together. If a male fly is mated to C(1)RM, $y \le w/Y$ females, all the male offspring will carry the same X chromosome as the P1 male.

Local hopping mutagenesis to target trol/P69

The P element mediated local hopping mutagenesis was undertaken with the aim of isolating lethal trol alleles or viable ERG mutants (FIG. 1). There were three generations of crosses before the mutagenesis result could be tested by ERG.

- 20 Cross I: The mutator, 3B, which carries a pCaspeR3 in white background was used. Its eye-color is light orange. The jumpstarter stock carries delta2-3 on the third chromosome, which is marked with a dominant marker Sb. In each bottle, 20 mutator males and 20 jumpstarter females were combined. Parent flies in each bottle were transferred after 4-5 days to a new bottle once, and then discarded. All flies were raised at 25°C.
- 30 Cross II: Among the progeny of cross I, virgin females with Sb marker were selected to mate with males

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from a FMO containing stock. The females carried both the mutator on the X chromosome, and the jumpstarter on the 3rd chromosome. In the germ line cells of these flies, the P element in the mutator could be mobilized to new chromosomal locations because of the transposase activity conferred by delta2-3. In each round of the mutagenesis, 20 bottles of cross II were set up, each containing 20 virgin females and 20 males. Parent flies were transferred once to new food after 4-5 days,

10 and then discarded. All flies were raised at 25°C.

Cross III: From the progeny of cross II, flies were selected for remobilized pCaspeR3, by selecting for flies with changed eye color shades (presence of

white[†]). Flies were also selected against Sb-marked delta2-3, so that pCaspeR3 insertions would be stabilized.

Both male and female progeny of cross II were used:

- 20 1) Males were single-mated to C(1)RM, y w/Y females carrying an attached X chromosome to establish stable lines. After 7 days, male parents were scored by an electroretinogram (ERG) as described in Example 2. If the ERG showed a mutant phenotype, the line was saved for further study; and if the ERG were wild type, the line was discarded.
 - 2) Virgin females were single-mated to $trol/W^{\dagger}Y$ males. After 7 days, parents were transferred to fresh food. The offspring of this single-female-mating have four possible genotypes, indicated as A,B,C and D in FIG. 1.

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If type A flies were found, the line was discarded because the insertion obviously was not into the *trol* gene. If type A flies were not found, then the P insertion was in the *trol* gene. The D type flies were saved for further study.

Analysis

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Three rounds of local hopping mutagenesis were performed. Cross II yielded about 2% of offspring that showed changes of eye color, indicating that the P element was mobilized to new chromosomal locations.

Approximately $2X10^4$ F₂ flies were scored.

Virgin female F_2 flies with eye color changes were single-female-mated to $trol/W^{\dagger}Y$. The offspring of this cross were scored for complementation with trol. Among 179 such single-female-mating lines, none was identified as a trol allele.

Male F_2 flies with eye color changes were single male mated to C(1) RM, y w/Y. Among the offspring of this single-male-mating, all males carried the same X chromosome as the single male parent. 1-2 males of each line were scored by ERG. In 255 such single male mating lines, one was identified as a new mutant and designated as inaF.

EXAMPLE 2

25 Electrophysiological Identification of inaF Phenotypes

Electroretinogram

The electroretinogram (ERG) is an extracellular measurement of the light-induced responses in the eyes. The ERGs were recorded as described in Pak, W.L. et al.

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Nature 222:351-354 (1969). A xenon arc lamp (Oriel) served as the light source with an infrared filter (7CS1-75, Corning) and Wratten neutral density filters (Kodak) were used to modulate its intensity and infrared content. In most cases, flies were raised to 5 day post-eclosion for ERG recordings. In the case of the P69;bw;st trp^{CM}double mutant, however, 1 day old flies were used because photoreceptors in the double mutant showed massive degeneration by day 5, but no visible defects in the eye structure on day 1.

Intracellular Recording

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The intracellular recording technique was performed as described in detail by Johnson, E.C. et al. (1986) J. Gen. Physiol. 88(5):651-673. Flies anaesthetized with CO₂ were mounted on a glass coverslip with myristic acid. A small portion (<10%) of the cornea was cut off with a vibrating razor blade. A thin layer of inert vacuum grease was applied to the cut end to prevent desiccation of the retina.

Both the reference and the recording electrodes were inserted into the eye through the cut end of the cornea. The reference electrode was a low resistance glass microelectrode filled with physiological saline and was placed into the retinal layer of the eye. The intracellular recording electrode (FHC Borosil 1.2 mm) was pulled on a vertical Narashige puller, filled with 2 M KCl, and selected for resistance ranging between 30 to 100 mega ohm. The recording electrode was inserted into the retinal layer with a Leitz micromanipulator. Penetration of a photoreceptor was done by a minute

forward movement of the electrode and a simultaneous delivery of a brief overdriving negative capacitance current to induce oscillation at the tip of the electrode. Successful penetration of a photoreceptor cell was indicated by a drop in voltage of more than 30 mV as seen on the oscilloscope and a receptor potential of more than 20 mV in response to a bright light stimulus. The preparation was dark adapted for more than 2 minutes before any further experiments.

The measured voltage was fed to a WPI preamplifier from which the signals were directed to both an oscilloscope and a digitizer (Digidata 1200, Axon Instrument). The digitized signals were filtered at 100 Hz and were recorded by Axoscope in a Pentium computer.

Analysis

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In the study of *inaF*, all flies for ERG were 2-4 days posteclosion. The most obvious mutant phenotype of *inaF* revealed by ERG and intracellular recordings is that the receptor potential fails to maintain a steady-state response during light stimuli and decays rapidly toward base line (FIGS. 2 and 3).

The rate of decay was allele-dependent. Strong alleles such as $inaF^{P111x}$ caused the receptor potential to decay to base line within 4-5 seconds under bright light stimuli. Intermediate alleles such as $inaF^{P112x}$ caused slower decay, and some of them never caused complete decay to the base line even under bright light stimuli.

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The rate of decay was also dependent on the light intensity (FIG. 2) and was faster under brighter light in all *inaF* alleles.

This receptor potential decay in inaF closely resembles the phenotype displayed by the trp mutant. When the strongest mutant alleles of the two genes, $inaF^{P111X}$ and trp^{P301} , were compared, $inaF^{P111X}$ caused a stronger mutant phenotype in speed and extent of receptor potential decay (FIG. 3). FIG. 3 also shows that the receptor potential of wild-type flies is maintained at a steady state.

Another mutant phenotype became evident when the latency between the light stimulus and the photoreceptor response was examined (FIG. 4). The latency is defined as the delay between the onset of the light stimulus and the beginning of photoreceptor depolarization. This delay is light intensity dependent and has been interpreted as the time required by the phototransduction pathway to proceed from photoconversion of rhodopsin to the opening of light-activated channels on the plasma membrane. In both trp^{P301} and $inaF^{P111x}$, the latency was prolonged compared to that of the wild type, and the delay was greater in $inaF^{P111x}$.

25 EXAMPLE 3

Effect of inaF Mutation on Retinal Degeneration

This example shows that the *inaF* photoreceptors undergo a light-dependent degeneration. Degeneration is also age-dependent and is not detectable in young (<1 week old) inaF mutants.

Transmission Electron Microscopy

The transmission electron microscopy technique was identical to the method described by Fan, S.S. and Ready, D.F. (1997) Development 124:1497-1507. were microinjected with aldehyde fixative (2% paraformaldehyde and 1.75% glutaraldehyde in 0.1 M sodium cacodylate, pH 7.4) and dissected after 1 hour. Fixed eyes were incubated in 1% tannic acid overnight and transferred to 2% osmium tetroxide in 0.1 M sodium cacodylate for 2 hours. After washing, the eyes were incubated overnight in 2% uranyl acetate. After a serial dehydration with ethanol, eyes were mounted in Epox 812. Tissue was then sectioned using a Reichert ultramicrotome and observed using a Philips 300 electron microscope.

Analysis

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Retinal degeneration was observed in inaF compound eyes (FIGS. 5A-B). For better control, $inaF^{P105}p$ was put in a bw; st background to eliminate eye color. Confocal microscopy and EM were used to examine photoreceptor structures. The photoreceptors in $inaF^{P105p}$; bw; st showed no detectable abnormality at 1 day posteclosion, suggesting that they had developed normally. However, flies raised in a 12 hour-light/12 hour-dark cycle to 19 days posteclosion showed retinal degeneration. Rabdomeres were absent in some ommatidia; most of the rabdomeres were much reduced in size; microvilli (membrane which contains rhodopsin) were disrupted by vacuolized structures; and the base of the microvilli was no longer smooth and regular. 30

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To test if this retinal degeneration was light dependent, $inaF^{P105p}$; bw; st flies were raised in complete darkness from the embryo stage to 19 days posteclosion. EM study of these fly eyes indicated that the photoreceptor structure was largely intact (data not shown). Hence the retinal degeneration in inaF is light dependent.

EXAMPLE 4

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Proof that the inaF Mutation is Caused by P-Element Insertion - Remobilization of the P insertion in $inaF^{P105p}$

The most direct and reliable method to demonstrate that a mutation is in fact caused by a P element insertion is to remobilize the P element. If the P element is the cause of the mutation, then one would expect two possibilities when the P insertion is removed from the genome. First, if the P element is precisely excised, then the mutated gene will be restored, and the mutant flies revert to wild type (thus they are called "revertants"). Second, if the excision is imprecise and takes away some flanking DNA with the remobilized P element, the flies will continue to show a mutant phenotype.

If, however, the mutation is actually not caused by the P insertion, but by some other defect such as a spontaneous point mutation, then the flies with the P element remobilized will always remain mutant, i.e., no wild-type revertants will be recovered.

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Remobilization of the P insertion in $inar^{P105p}$

inaF^{P105p} was used as a mutator and crossed to the jumpstarter, P3269. The design and protocol for this remobilization experiment are the same as those of local hopping mutagenesis described in Example 1 above, except that white-eyed flies (indicating loss of the P element which carries the mini-white gene) were selected among the offspring of cross II (FIG. 6). These virgin females were single mated to FMO/Y males. The offspring had four possible genotypes (X- indicates an excision event):

A:
$$X - inaF^{P105p} - X/FM0; +/+; +/+$$

C:
$$FMO/Y; +/+; +/+$$

15 D:
$$X - inaF^{P105p} - X/Y; +/+; +/+$$

Type D offspring in each single-female line were selected for ERG. If the ERG showed the *inaF* phenotype, the excision event was an imprecise one. Types A and D were saved to establish stable lines of new *inaF* alleles. If the ERG showed a wild-type response, the excision event was a precise one. Types A and D were saved to establish stable lines of these revertants. These lines were used in chromosomal *in situ* hybridization with the P element as a probe to confirm that the P insertion in *inaF* P105p no longer existed.

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Analysis

In cross III, 260 single-female-mating lines were set up, and their offspring were scored by ERG. We obtained 126 wild-type revertants, 61 lethal mutants, and 25 mutants showing the ina ERG phenotype and thus presumed to carry new mutant inaF alleles. Flies from these 25 lines were crossed to $inaF^{P105p}$ for complementation and confirmed to carry mutant alleles of $inaF^{P105p}$.

This result unequivocally demonstrated that the $inaF^{P105p}$ mutation is caused by a P element insertion.

EXAMPLE 5

Cytogenetic Mapping of the $inaF^{P105p}$ Mutation

To map the *inaF* mutation cytogenetically, a group of deficiency stocks were obtained from the *Drosophila* Stock Center at Indiana University and mated to the *inaF* mutant. The heterozygous F₁ flies that carried Deficiency/*inaF* chromosomes were scored by ERG.

20 Analysis

A group of deficiency stocks carrying deletions in the 10 C2-E3 region were used to map the $inaF^{P105p}$ mutation cytogenetically (FIG. 7). Three of them did not complement the $inaF^{P105p}$ mutation. Thus, results from cytogenetic mapping independently localized the $inaF^{P105p}$ mutation to the 10 C2-E3 region of the X chromosome, consistent with the P insertion site

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identified by chromosomal *in situ* hybridization as described in Example 9 below.

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EXAMPLE 6

An Eye-Specific Clone A23 Fragment Contains the inaF Gene

This example shows that, by analyzing genomic

Southern and Northern blots, clone A23 was shown to

contain the inaF structural gene.

Previous research has shown that the majority of genes important for phototransduction are expressed specifically or preferentially in the eyes. Since inaF is a vision defective mutant and clone A23 co-localizes with inaF, it is possible that clone A23 may contain the inaF structural gene. However, the 10 C-D-E region of the X chromosome contains about 500 kb of genomic DNA which accommodates about 50-100 genes. Therefore it is also possible that clone A23 represents an eyespecific gene in that region but is unrelated to the inaF gene. This question was resolved by a combination of genomic Southern and Northern analyses.

Isolation of Clone A23

Several years ago, the Pak laboratory isolated a pool of *Drosophila* eye-specific clones by subtractive hybridization. In that method, poly(A) + RNA extracted from the heads of wild type flies was reverse transcribed into cDNA and hybridized with an excess

amount of poly(A) + RNA extracted from the heads of eyes absent (eya) mutant flies, all according to standard

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protocols. The eye-specific, single-stranded cDNA molecules were then separated from the hybridization mixture by hydroxyapatite chromatography according to standard protocols and used to screen a genomic library to generate a pool of eye-specific clones. These clones were further confirmed by dot blots and Northern blots. The confirmed eye-specific clones were localized on the polytene chromosomes by chromosomal in situ hybridization. One of them, A23, was localized in the 10 D region of the X chromosome.

Genomic Southern Analysis

Genomic DNA of wild-type flies, the 3B mutators and the $inaF^{P105p}$ flies was isolated by homogenizing fifteen to twenty flies and using the Puregene kit from Gentra Co. following recommended protocols. 3 µg of genomic DNA of each type was digested with restriction enzymes of choice and loaded on a 0.7% agarose gel for electrophoresis. The agarose gel was denatured in 1.5 M NaCl, 0.5 M NaOH solution for 30 minutes, neutralized in 1 M Tris-Cl, 3 M NaCl, pH 7.5 solution for 40 minutes, blotted overnight onto Hybond-N⁺ Nylon membrane (Amersham Co.), and UV cross-linked.

1 μg of genomic or cDNA fragments was used as template for $^{32}P\text{-}dCTP$ labeling with random primers. The radioactively labeled probe was purified with a Sephadex G-50 column.

Prehybridization treatment was carried out in 0.5 M NaH₂PO₄, 0.7% SDS, 1% BSA, 0.01 M EDTA solution at 68 C for 3-4 hours, and hybridization was carried out in the same solution at 68 C for 16-20 hours. Washing was carried out in 0.04 M sodium phosphate buffer, 5%

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SDS, 0.5% BSA, 0.01 M EDTA solution twice for 20 minutes and in 0.04 M sodium phosphate buffer, 1% SDS, 0.01 M EDTA solution twice for 40 minutes. Kodak X-ray film was used for autoradiography.

5 Northern Analysis

The poly(A) + RNA was extracted with a PolyATtract1000 kit from Promega Co. following their recommended
protocol. 3 µg of poly(A) + RNA was loaded in each lane
of the agarose gel unless otherwise specified. 1 µg of
genomic DNA or cDNA fragment was used as template for

32P-dCTP labeling with random primers.
Prehybridization, hybridization, and washing of
Northern blots were carried out according to the
standard protocol in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning
A Laboratory Manual, 2nd ed. Vol. 1, Cold Spring Harbor
Laboratory Press (1989).

Analysis

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Genomic Southern analyses were used to determine whether A23 contains DNA fragments flanking the P element insertion that causes the *inaF* mutation. Since the P insertion is in *inaF*, A23 could not contain the *inaF* gene if it were far removed from the P insertion.

Genomic DNA from wild-type flies, mutator 3B, and $inaF^{P105p}$ was purified and digested with multiple restriction enzymes, electrophoresed and blotted. A genomic Southern blot was probed with pCaSpeR3 (FIG. 8). Restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) was observed and can be interpreted as follows: 1) The RFLP between wild type and 3B is due to an additional P element in 3B; and 2) The RFLP between 3B and

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inaF^{P105p} is due to the fact that DNA fragments of
different sizes flank the P element insertion sites in
3B and inaF, and these were detected by the ³²P-dCTP
labeled pCaSpeR3 probe.

Other Genomic Southern blots were probed by 32 P-dCTP labeled A23 fragments. Among A23 fragments, fragment 4 (3.6 kb) detected RFLPs between wild-type flies, 3B, and $inaF^{P105p}$ that were similar to those detected by the pCaSpeR3 probe as seen in FIG. 8, except that the EcoRI lanes showed same size signals. This could be due to the fact that the new flanking DNA sequences in $inaF^{P105p}$, though a different species, has the same size as the one flanking the P insertion in 3B. The similarity of the RFLPS between wild-type flies, 3B, and $inaF^{P105p}$ indicates that fragment 4 is likely to contain DNA flanking the P insertion site in $inaF^{P105p}$ (FIG. 9).

Northern blots were used to examine whether fragment 4 of A23 could detect alterations of

20 transcripts between wild-type flies and $inaF^{P105p}$.

Poly(A) + RNA was purified from wild-type fly heads, wild-type fly bodies, eya heads, and $inaF^{P105p}$ heads.

Because $inaF^{P105p}$ flies undergo age-dependent retinal degeneration, and because confocal microscopy did not detect retinal degeneration in young (<5 days) $inaF^{P105p}$ flies, polyA + RNA was purified from 1-3 days old $inaF^{P105p}$ flies. Fragment 4 of A23 was used as a probe for Northern analysis, and detected a 3.0 kb eye-

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specific transcript which was drastically reduced in $inaF^{P105p}$ flies.

Results from the genomic Southern and Northern analyses jointly indicated that fragment 4 of clone A23 contained at least part of the inaF gene and possibly all of it.

EXAMPLE 7

Isolation of inaF cDNA Clones From a Drosophila Head cDNA Library

Screening Procedure

Fragment 4 of A23, a genomic DNA fragment, was used as a template for \$32P-dCTP\$ labeling with random primers. The labeled probe was purified with a Sephadex G-50 column and was used to screen 5 X 10⁵ plaque forming units (pfu) of a Drosophila head cDNA Library, a gift from Dr. Erich Buchner at Wurzburg University in Germany. The cDNA library screening was carried out according to a standard protocol in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning A Laboratory Manual, 2nd ed. Vol. 1, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press (1989).

25 Analysis

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10 positively hybridizing cDNA clones were obtained and purified as single plaques. Cross hybridization among these clones demonstrated that they all belong to the same class of cDNA. cDNA#1 had the biggest insert and thus was used for further experiments. The insert of cDNA#1 was labeled with

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biotin-dUTP and used as a probe for chromosomal *in situ* hybridization and detected a hybridization signal in the 10 C2-E3 region as described in Example 8. The insert was also used to probe a genomic Southern blot and detected the same RFLP as those revealed by pCaSpeR3 and A23 probes. Finally, the insert was labeled with ³²P-dCTP and used to probe a Northern blot.

Three µg of polyA+ RNA of each sample was loaded on the gel. cDNA#1 insert was labeled with ³²P-dCTP. A 3.0 kb transcript was detected in the poly(A)⁺RNA from wild-type fly heads but not that from wild-type fly bodies and eya heads, indicating that the 3.0 kb transcript is eye specific (FIG. 11). The same transcript was absent from the poly(A)⁺RNA from inaF^{P105p}, indicating that the cDNA most likely contains the inaF gene. The same blot was boiled to eliminate the radioactive probe and used again for a control experiment in which RP49, a ribosomal protein universally expressed in all tissues, was used as a probe. These lines of evidence all suggested that cDNA#1 corresponds to the *inaF* gene.

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EXAMPLE 8

Chromosomal Location of the inaFP105p P Insertion

To localize the $inaF^{P105p}$ P insertion site on polytene chromosomes, pCaSpeR3, the P element employed in the local hopping mutagenesis described in Example 1, was used as a template for synthesizing biotin-dUTP probes for chromosomal $in\ situ$ hybridization to the

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polytene chromosomes of $inaF^{P105p}$. In this case, however, a genomic DNA fragment from clone A23, discussed in Example 6, and a cDNA fragment of cDNA#1 were used as templates for the biotin-dUTP labelling. The probe hybridized to 10 C2-E3 (FIG. 10). The signal at 10 C2-E3 was due to detection of the new P insertion.

EXAMPLE 9

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Sequence of inaF cDNA

Sequencing cDNA clone #1

and subcloned into the pBluescript-SK⁺ vector. T3 and T7 primers were used for initial sequencing reactions, and internal sequencing primers were designed and synthesized according to the sequence data obtained from each gel reading. The sequencing reactions were carried out at the DNA Sequencing Center at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Both strands were sequenced, and every nucleotide has been confirmed from at least three independent reactions. The sequence of cDNA clone 1 is set forth in SEQ ID:1. A similar nucleotide sequence, differing only in certain 5' regions, and including a linker sequence at the 3' end, is set forth in SEQ ID:2.

Analysis

The cDNA has a poly(A) tail immediately before the 3'-end EcoRI cloning site, and a consensus

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polyadenylation signal (AATAAA) preceding the polyA⁺. This indicates that the 3' end of the cDNA is intact.

At the 5' end, the translation start site was determined on the basis that an in-frame stop codon is present about 15 amino acids upstream to the methionine assigned as the +1 site.

The putative protein has 241 amino acids with an estimated molecular weight of 26 kd. It appears to be a soluble protein since the Kyte-Doolittle plot did not reveal any hydrophobic segments which can serve as transmembrane domains. A BLAST search of the NCBI, EMBL and SWISSPORT databases did not find significant homology with any known proteins. A MOTIF search identified two potential glycosylation sites (position 18 and 103) and a potential PKC phosphorylation site (position 144).

FIG. 12 shows a restriction map of inaF cDNA and of the corresponding genomic region in the A23 clone and three inaF mutants.

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EXAMPLE 10

Immunodetection of the TRP protein

To determine if inaF mutations affect the amount of the TRP protein, Western blot analyses were performed. The blot was probed with a monoclonal anti-TRP antibody described in Pollock, *J. Neurosci*. 15:3747-3760 (1995). Results showed that the TRP protein is reduced to about 15% and 10% of the wild type level in inaF^{P105p} and inaF^{P106x}, respectively, at 1 day post-eclosion (FIG. 13). The reductions are not due to non-specific reductions of retinal proteins. Other retinal proteins examined [rhodopsin, PLCB

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(NORPA), and InaD) did not show similar reductions at this age (data not shown), nor were there any signs of retinal degradation in such young flies.

5 EXAMPLE 11

Recombinant Expression Vectors Encoding InaF

A glutathione-S-transferase-InaF polypeptide (GST-InaF) fusion construct was made by ligating the inaF coding region in frame with the glutathione transferase 10 gene in the pGEX-KG vector [(Guan and Dixon, Anal. Biochem., 192:262-267 (1991)]. Following transformation of bacteria (E. coli BL-21), over expression of the fusion protein was achieved by 15 induction with IPTG. The fusion protein was partially purified by using immobilized glutathione [Guan and Dixon (1991), cited above]. Further purification can be achieved by ion exchange chromatography. In order to obtain purified InaF protein, the fusion protein can 20 be digested with thrombin (Sigma) and the InaF protein can be eluted from an immobilized glutathione agarose column as known in the art.

Biological Deposit Under The Budapest Treaty

A deposit of inaF cDNA, designated as inaF cDNA-1/XL-1 Blue was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, VA 20110-2209. The deposit is Epicurian Coli XL-1 Blue (Stratagene) harboring inaF cDNA (SEQ ID:1, nucleotides 314 to 1036) from Drosophila melanogaster (Berlin) in a

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pBluescript II KS (Stratagene) vector. The accession number is ATCC 207232.

While the invention has been illustrated and
described in detail in the drawings and foregoing
description, the same is to be considered as
illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being
understood that only the preferred embodiment has been
shown and described and that all changes and
modifications that come within the spirit of the
invention are desired to be protected. In addition,
all references cited herein are indicative of the level
of skill in the art and are hereby incorporated by
reference in their entirety.

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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having substantial similarity to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
 - 2. The molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleotide sequence is comprised of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
- 3. The molecule of claim 1, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
 - 4. The molecule of claim 1, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
 - 5. The molecule of claim 1, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

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- 6. The molecule of claim 1, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or a sufficiently similar sequence thereto to exhibit the ability to regulate calcium ion entry into cells.
- 7. An isolated nucleic acid molecule, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
- 8. An isolated nucleic acid molecule, comprising a nucleotide sequence having at least about 80% identity to a 400 nucleotide long sequence within the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 301 to nucleotide 1036, said nucleotide sequence from nucleotide 301 to nucleotide 1036 encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium entry into cells.

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- 9. A recombinant nucleic acid molecule, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having substantial similarity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
- 10. The molecule of claim 9, wherein said nucleotide sequence is comprised of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.

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11. The molecule of claim 9, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

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12. The molecule of claim 9, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEO ID:1.

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- 13. The molecule of claim 9, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
- 14. The molecule of claim 9, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or a sufficiently similar sequence thereto to exhibit the ability to regulate calcium ion entry into cells.

- 15. The molecule of claim 9, further comprising a promoter operably linked to a terminal 5' end of said nucleotide sequence.
- 25 16. The molecule of claim 15, wherein said promoter is selected from the group consisting of a constitutive promoter, an inducible promoter, and a cell-specific promoter.

- 17. A recombinant nucleic acid molecule, comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
- 18. A host cell, comprising an introduced nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of substantial similarity to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036, said nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells.
- 19. The host cell of claim 18, wherein said

 15 nucleotide sequence is comprised of the nucleotide

 sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to
 nucleotide 1036.
- 20. The host cell of claim 18, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
- 21. The host cell of claim 18, wherein said
 25 protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having
 at least about 50% identity with the amino acid
 sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
- 22. The host cell of claim 18, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

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- 23. The host cell of claim 18, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or a sufficiently similar sequence thereto to exhibit the ability to regulate calcium ion entry into cells.
- 24. A host cell, comprising an introduced nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036, said nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells.
 - 25. A purified InaF protein.
- 26. A purified protein, said protein having an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1, said protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells.

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- 27. The protein of claim 26, wherein said protein has an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID:1.
- 28. The protein of claim 26, wherein said protein 25 has an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

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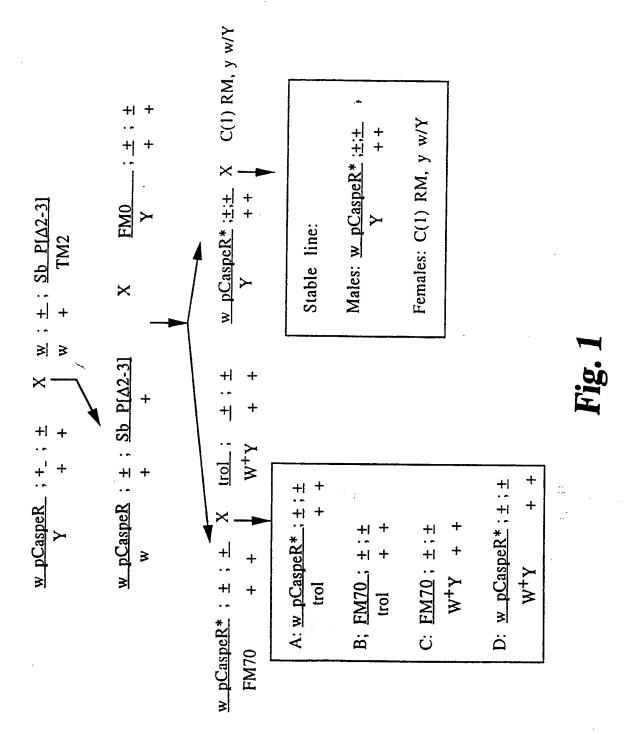
- 29. The protein of claim 26, wherein said protein has an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID:1 or a sufficiently similar amino acid sequence thereto to exhibit the ability to regulate calcium ion entry into cells.
- 30. A purified protein, said protein having an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1, said protein functioning in regulating calcium ion influx into cells.
- 31. A purified protein, said protein having an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of substantial similarity to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036, said protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells.
- 32. A recombinant protein, comprising:
 20 an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1, said protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells.
- 25 33. The protein of claim 32, wherein said protein has an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

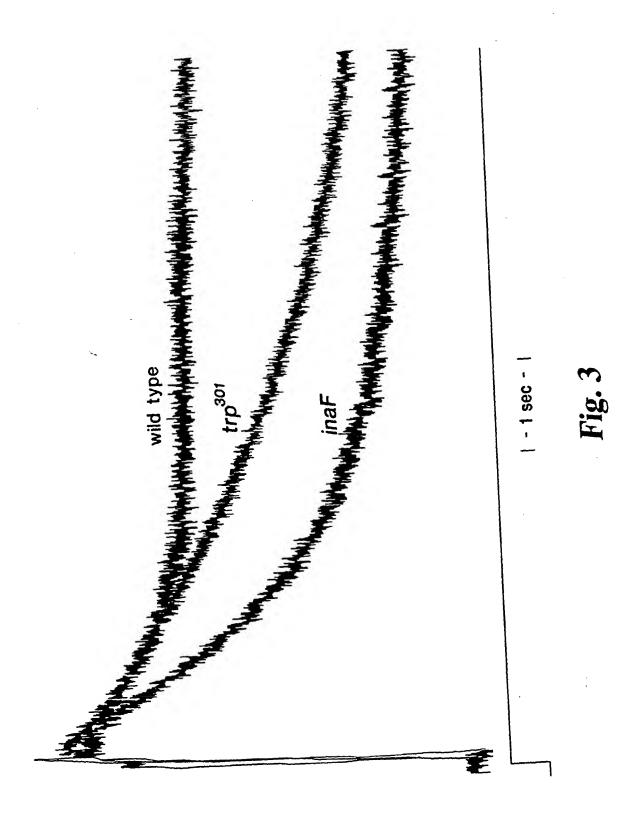
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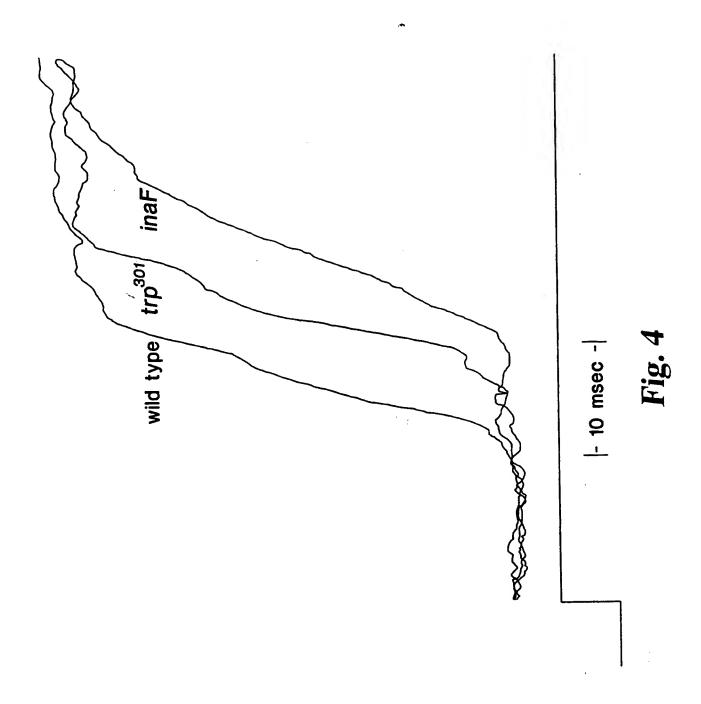
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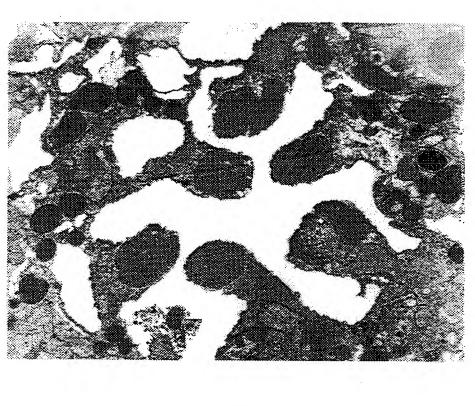
- 34. A method of expressing an InaF protein, said method comprising:
- (a) introducing into a host cell a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having substantial similarity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036; and
- (b) culturing under conditions to achieve10 expression of said protein.
 - 35. The method of claim 34, wherein said nucleotide sequence is comprised of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.
- 36. The method of claim 34, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 30% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
 - 37. The method of claim 34, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% identity with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.
 - 38. The method of claim 34, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1.

- 39. The method of claim 34, wherein said protein is comprised of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 or a sufficiently similar sequence thereto to exhibit the ability to regulate calcium entry into cells.
- 40. The method of claim 34, wherein said nucleotide sequence is inserted in a vector.
- 10 41. The method of claim 40, wherein said vector is a plasmid vector.
 - 42. A method of expressing an InaF protein, said method comprising:
- 15 (a) introducing into a host cell a recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein functioning in regulating calcium ion entry into cells, said nucleotide sequence having substantial similarity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036; and
 - (b) culturing under conditions to achieve expression of said protein.
- 25 43. The method of claim 42, wherein said nucleotide sequence is comprised of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID:1 from nucleotide 314 to nucleotide 1036.

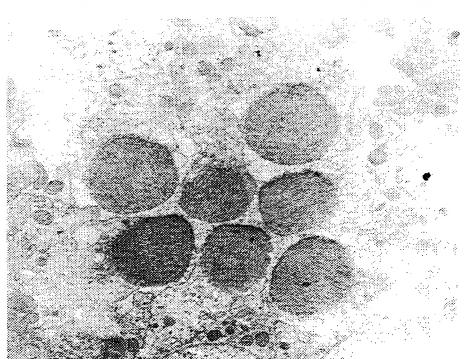




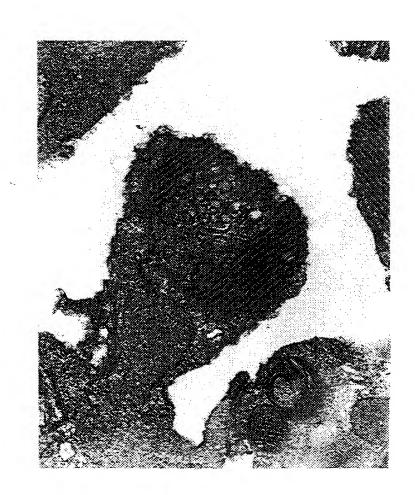




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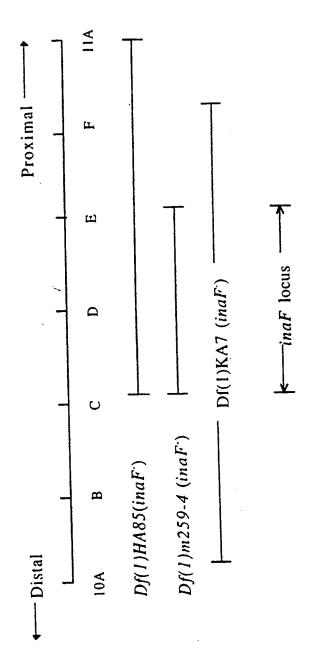
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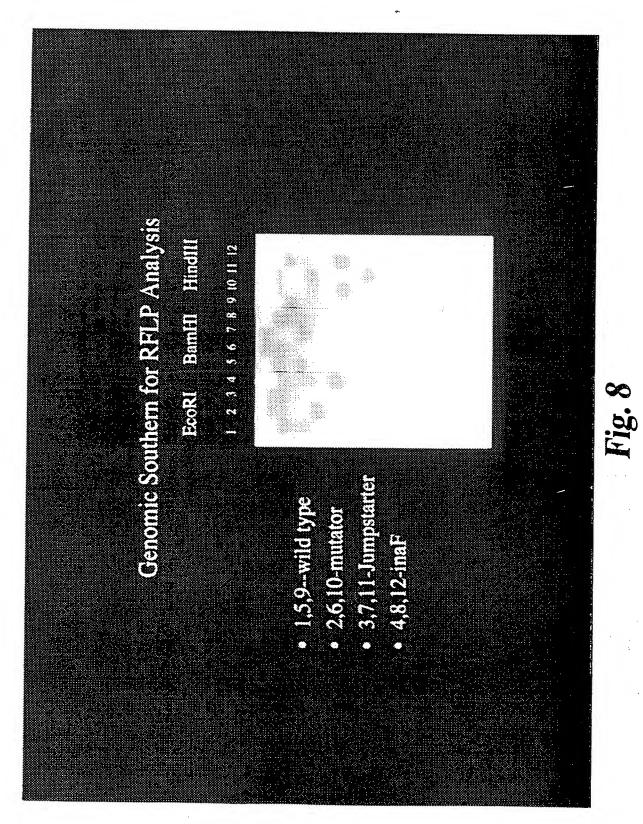
Fig. 5B

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Fig. 6







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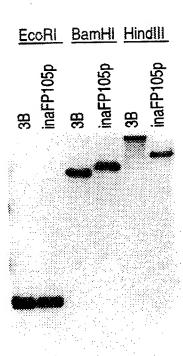


Fig. 9

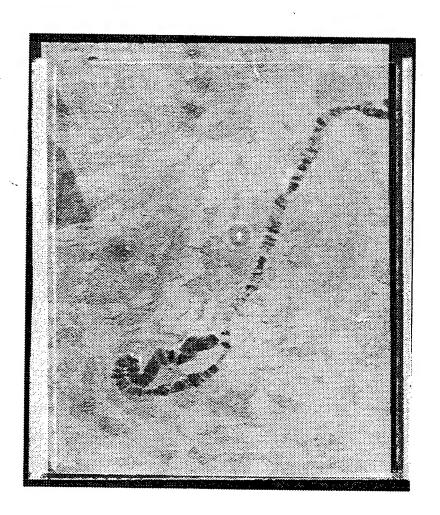


Fig. 10

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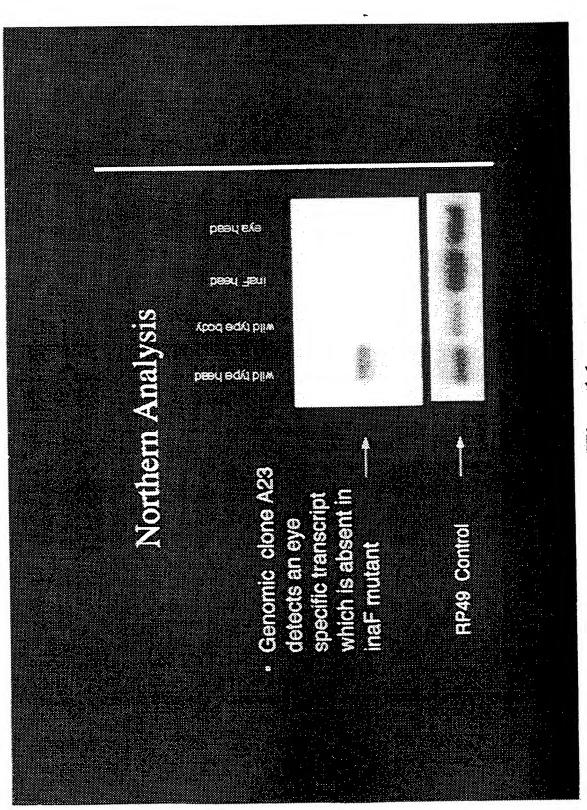
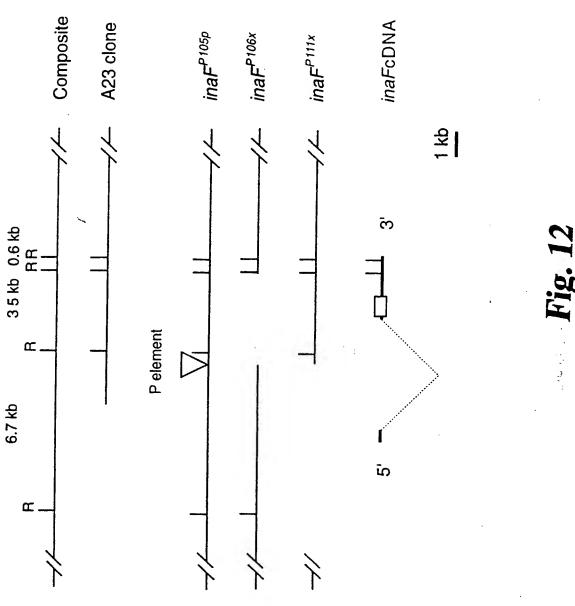


Fig. 1

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Fig. 13

09/700869 526 Rec d PCT/PLD 20NOV 2000

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atcctagtcg cctcacgcga agagaactat gtcatgatca gatatcggtg tatgcattct 23	880
atattatgta cttcgaaata tgtaatttat taagttttcg ctatactttt cattcaaatt 24	40
ggcaaaaacc aattcaaagg ttttcaatat tttcgaaaag cattttaggc tttctatgta 25	500
acgtatgttt ttcaaacaaa atattagttt ttgaaacttt attatcggat aaacaaatgt 25	560
aagccaaatt acaacgttta tgatactcca aagattcgca ctataaagtg gcctaaaaat 26	520
agctgacgca ttagccatag gcgcttcgct tctcaagata aaacctgggc gtgctcaact 26	80
caagaacaaa tatgtggtta tatacatata tacatatatg gggcatataa ccgatgtgtg 27	7 4 0
acgtgacatt ggctcgttct attcacatac ttaaacacta aatgcaaacc tatcaaaaac 28	300

caactacact	aagcgaaaag	cggcagagat	agttäaggaa	agtggtcaag	agaggacgag	2860
agagagag	agagaaagtg	aaagtgaaag	ggagagatag	taaaactgca	tctgcatcca	2920
aagacacgag	aattgaattc	atcaataata	acatacgtat	aaacgatatg	catacgatat	2980
agaattgaat	ctgtaactga	tgggcatata	ccgcatatat	atcttatata	ccgcatatat	3040
cttatatatg	tataccaaga	aaaacaaagt	catttggcaa	taataaagca	tagcaaacaa	3100
caataaaaaa	aa					3112

$\mathscr{A}(x_{i_1})$